

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY **REGION III** 1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103-2029

# **MEMORANDUM**

FEB 1 2 2018

SUBJECT:

Recusal Statement

FROM:

Cosmo Servidio

Regional Administrator

TO:

E. Scott Pruitt

Administrator

I have previously consulted with the Office of General Counsel/Ethics (OGC/Ethics) and the Region's ethics team and been advised about my ethics obligations. This memorandum formally notifies you of my continuing obligation to recuse myself from participating personally and substantially in certain matters in which I have a financial interest, or a personal or business relationship. I also understand that I have obligations pursuant to Executive Order 13770 and the Trump Ethics Pledge that I signed.

### FINANCIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

As required by 18 U.S.C. § 208(a), I will not participate personally and substantially in any particular matter in which I know that I have a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, or in which I know that a person whose interests are imputed to me has a financial interest directly and predictably affected by the matter, unless I first obtain a written waiver, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(1), or qualify for a regulatory exemption, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 208(b)(2). I understand that the interests of the following persons are imputed to me: any spouse or minor child of mine; any general partner of a partnership in which I am a limited or general partner; any organization in which I serve as officer, director, trustee, general partner or employee; and any person or organization with which I am negotiating or have an arrangement concerning prospective employment.

I have consulted with OGC/Ethics and been advised that I do not currently have any financial conflicts of interest but will remain vigilant and notify OGC/Ethics immediately should my financial situation change.

#### OBLIGATIONS UNDER EXECUTIVE ORDER 13770

Pursuant to Section 1, Paragraph 6 of the Executive Order, I understand that I have ethics

obligations with respect to my former employer, the Bucks County Water & Sewer Authority (BCWSA), and, by extension, Bucks County, Pennsylvania. The Executive Order provides more restrictions than the federal ethics rules, but I am advised by OGC/Ethics that the additional restrictions contained in the Executive Order regarding former employers do not apply to me. The definition of "former employer" in the Executive Order excludes local government. Therefore, OGC/Ethics has confirmed that I am not subject to the additional Executive Order restrictions regarding former employers.

## OBLIGATIONS UNDER THE IMPARTIALITY PROVISIONS

Pursuant to federal ethics rules, I understand that I have a one-year cooling off period with my former employer. For one year after my resignation from BCWSA, I am prohibited from participating personally and substantially in any particular matter involving specific parties in which BCWSA or Bucks County is a party or represents a party, unless I am first authorized by OGC/Ethics to participate, pursuant to 5 C.F.R. § 2635.502(d). On November 15, 2017, EPA's Designated Agency Ethics Official issued an impartiality determination authorizing me to participate in particular matters that involve BCWSA or Bucks County, Pennsylvania with the following limitation: I must recuse myself from participation in EPA specific party matters if I participated personally and substantially in the same specific party matters while employed with the BWSCA.

## UPDATE AS NECESSARY

In consultation with OGC/Ethics or the Region's ethics team, I will revise and update my recusal statement whenever warranted by changed circumstances, including changes in my financial interests, changes in my personal or business relationships, or any changes to my EPA duties. In the event of any changes, I will provide a copy of the revised recusal statement to you, OGC/Ethics, and my principal subordinates.

cc: Ryan Jackson, Chief of Staff Cecil A. Rodrigues, Deputy Regional Administrator, Region III Mary Coe, Regional Counsel, Region III Deane Bartlett, Regional Ethics Counsel, Region III Justina Fugh, Senior Counsel for Ethics

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> See Exec. Order 13,770, Section 2(j), which provides that "'former employer' does not include ... State government."